



DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY  
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IN REPLY  
REFER TO

DB

OCT 7 2002

MEMORANDUM FOR DLA DIRECTOR'S STAFF  
COMMANDERS, DLA FIELD ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: The Javits-Wagner-O'Day Program

For most Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) employees, October heralds the beginning of a new fiscal year. However, it is also National Disability Employment Awareness Month, and October 12-20, 2002, is National Javits-Wagner-O'Day (JWOD) Week. Under the JWOD Program, Government Purchase Card users and acquisition personnel buy supplies and services furnished by nonprofit agencies employing people who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

The theme of this year's National JWOD Week is "JWOD Works for America." I am especially proud of our Agency's efforts to provide employment and training opportunities for people with severe disabilities through our support of the JWOD Program. DLA is the JWOD Program's largest contracting agency for the second year in a row. In Fiscal Year 2001, DLA's JWOD purchases amounted to \$248.6 million, a 25 percent increase over Fiscal Year 2000 purchases of \$198.3 million.

In President Bush's New Freedom Initiative for people with disabilities, he cites the 70 percent unemployment rate that exists among this population and pledges the Administration's commitment to increasing the ability of Americans with disabilities integration into the workforce. The major challenges to productive employment of qualified people with disabilities are attitudinal barriers and false assumptions in respect to work performance. Your efforts to utilize JWOD and inform your associates about this program will help ensure that DLA makes an important contribution to President Bush's goal of fulfilling America's promise to Americans with disabilities.

Please learn more about the important role you can play in this program at [www.jwod.gov](http://www.jwod.gov), and make a special effort to show your support during its celebration of National JWOD Week, October 12-20, 2002.

KEITH W. LIPPERT  
Vice Admiral, SC, USN  
Director

